

Introduction to Psychology



Course Psychology 2301.003
Professor Robert Kinney, Ph.D.
Teaching Assistant Jonathon Shasteen, B.S.
Term Fall 2015
Meetings Tuesday/Thursday 8:30AM-9:45AM; Room CR 1.202

Robert Kinney's Contact Information

Office Phone 972-437-5831
Office Location No on campus office, meetings by appt. only
Email Address Rsk130430@utdallas.edu
Office Hours By appt. only

Jonathon Shasteen's Contact Information

Office Location GR 2.302
Email Address Jon.shasteen@utdallas.edu
Office Hours By apt. only

General Course Information

Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, & other restrictions Prerequisite: None

Course Description **PSY 2301 - Introduction to Psychology** (3 semester credit hours) Overviews the major theories and scientific research examining the human mind and behavior. The topics range from studies of perception, cognition, memory, language, and thought to studies of development, personality, relationships, motivation, abnormal patterns of thought and behavior, and cultural differences.

- 1.1 Describe and explain the nature of psychology as a scientific discipline
- 1.2 Describe and analyze major theoretical perspectives and overarching themes of psychology and their historical development.
- 2.1 Identify and explain different research methods used by psychologists.
- 2.2 Explain and apply basic statistical analyses and employ critical thinking to evaluate the appropriateness of conclusions derived from their use.
- 3.1 Use critical thinking to evaluate popular media and scholarly literature.
- 3.2 Demonstrate how psychological principles can explain and inform clinical issues, social issues, organizational issues, and public policy.

- Program Level Learning Objectives for Psych 2301**
- 4.1 Demonstrate effective writing skills in summarizing and evaluating technical reports.
 - 5.1 Apply psychological concepts, theories, and research findings to issues in everyday life.
 - 5.2 Identify appropriate applications of psychology to mental health and organizational problems.
 - 80.1 Explain and apply major theoretical and scholarly approaches, empirical findings, and historical trends in a social/behavior science.
 - 80.2 Explain and apply basic research methods in social/behavioral science.
 - 80.3 Apply modes of critical thinking used in social/behavioral science.

Introduction to Psychology

Required Texts & Materials Nairne, James S. (2014). *Psychology: 6th Edition*. Wadsworth (Cengage Learning).

***Feel free to purchase an older version. The page numbers may be different, but I will make you aware of the information that we are covering on a week- to-week.

Suggested Texts, Readings, & Materials American Psychological Association. 6th ed.). (2009). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association*. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

Grading Scale	Percentage	Grade Equivalent
	94-100	A
	90-93	A-
	87-89	B+
	83-86	B
	80-82	B-
	77-79	C+
	73-76	C
	70-72	C-
	67-69	D+
	63-66	D
	60-62	D-
	59 or below	F

Assignments & Academic Calendar

Exams: There will be four, equally weighted, non-cumulative, multiple-choice exams given throughout the semester. *For each test, you must bring a Pearson Scranton #229630 (Salmon Colored, landscape orientated) and a #2 pencil. You will be required to use your test booklets as cover sheets during tests.* After each of the first three exams, students will be given back the prompts and their scantrons for inspection. All protested grades should be made during this classtime.

Exam Corrections: After each of the first three exams, students will be given back the prompts and their scantrons for inspection. Students will have to write down the items that were responded to incorrectly, and take home the exam prompts (Scantrons have to stay in possession of the instructor). Students have ONE WEEK to return the test booklet and the corrected responses WITH an explanation of why it is believed to be the correct choice, citing where the information was obtained in the book. As with all assignments, this work should be typed. No late corrections will be accepted.

Eulogy: You will write a 350-500 (1.5-2 page) word eulogy of a famous psychological theorists or person in the history of psychology. Basically, a eulogy is a brief speech given by an important other in the life of a recently deceased individual. It usually honors the person through addressing their personal and professional accomplishments. For this assignment you will need to think about what the individual did and the type of person that he or she might have been. You can feel free to have a bit of creative license. We will take a few portions of class to share completed projects/presentations.

Introduction to Psychology

Calendar and Course Policies

Date	Topic	Associated reading (To be read for the date listed)
August 25, 2015	Introductions, Syllabus, Assignments	Syllabus/ Chapter 1
8/27/15	Intro to Psych, The Tools of Psychological Research	Chapter 1, 2
9/1/15	The Tools of Psychological Research	Chapter 2
9/3/15	Human Growth and Development	Chapter 4
9/8/15	Human Growth and Development	Chapter 4
9/10/15 -9/9 Last day to drop without a "W"	Sensation and Perception	Chapter 5
9/15/15	Consciousness	Chapter 6
9/17/15	Consciousness/ Test Review	Chapter 6
9/22/15	*****Test (JS)	
9/24/15	Biological Processes (JS)	Chapter 3
9/29/15	Schizophrenia (JS)	Lecture- TBD
10/1/15	Learning from Experience (Return Corrections)	Chapter 7
10/6/15	Memory	Chapter 8
10/8/15	Memory	Chapter 8
10/20/15	Language and Thought	Chapter 9
10/22/15	Intelligence/ Test Review	Chapter 10
10/27/15	*****Test (JS) Midterm Grades/ Midterm Evaluation of Course	
10/29/15 –Last day to drop with approval	Motivation and Emotion	Chapter 11
11/3/15	Motivation and Emotion (Quiz)	Chapter 11
11/5/15	Personality (Return Corrections)	Chapter 12
11/3/15	Personality	Chapter 12
11/10/15	Social Psychology	Chapter 13
11/12/15	Social Psychology / Test Review	Chapter 13
11/17/15	*****Test(JS)	
11/19/15	Psychological Disorders	Chapter 14
11/24/15	Psychological Disorders	Chapter 14
11/26/15	Thanksgiving	No Class
12./1/15	Therapy (Return Corrections)	Chapter 15
12/3/15	Stress and Health	Chapter 16
12/8/15	Stress and Health/Test Review Final Feedback For Course	Chapter 16
12/10/15	Reading Day	No Class
TBD	Final Exam (JS)	

Grading (credit) Criteria	Attendance: 10% Exams: 70% Corrections: 10% Eulogy: 10%
Make-up Exams	DO NOT MISS AN EXAM!!!!!! Make-up exams require a (1) medical excuse that is

Introduction to Psychology

	documented by a physician -on his/her letterhead or (2) a personal emergency such as attending a funeral. Documentation of the emergency must be provided. In any event, the professor has to be made aware of the event prior to the date/time that the test is set to be administered. Otherwise, a make-up exam will not be considered.
Extra Credit	There will be no opportunities for extra credit given.
Research Exposure Credit	<p>All students enrolled in this core class must earn research exposure credits. Details about this requirement appear on the separate Research Exposure Credit Requirement handout distributed on the first day of class. This handout is also posted on the BBS Forum eLearning site. Here is a link to the BBS FAQ page on this subject http://www.utdallas.edu/bbs/undergraduate/rec.html . Students who fail to complete this requirement by the last day of classes will receive a grade penalty for one of the core courses in which they are enrolled.</p> <p><u>DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE END OF THE SEMESTER TO SIGN UP!!!!!!</u></p>
Late Work	Work that is due should be turned in at the beginning of class on the date requested. If work is late, it will receive a 3% grade reduction per day of lateness (e.g., 1 day late is 3%, 2 days late is 6, and so on). Late work will not be accepted on or after the 8 th day after it was originally due.
Class Attendance	<p>Attendance will be taken at each class. Due to the abbreviated schedule (e.g., only meeting 2x weekly), students are permitted two absences.</p> <p><u>There is no need to contact the instructor to obtain “approval.”</u></p> <p>Beyond the free absences, each subsequent absence will result in a 25% reduction of your attendance grade. Additionally, the test materials will draw heavily from lecture material and there will be in class quizzes throughout the semester, which cannot be made up. It would be smart to attend class!</p>
Classroom Citizenship	<p>Please observe proper classroom etiquette. Students who are observed “Cyber-loafing” may be asked to leave the classroom. Also, if you fall asleep, you may be asked to leave. In a class like this you should feel somewhat connected to the material (you all have psyches!). As such, if you are bored or sleepy it may be an indication that you aren’t understanding the topic or are having trouble relating- ASK A QUESTION. It will help us all out! Please make every effort to silence your phones. However, I understand that there are occasions in which phone calls must be answered - step out of the room to do so. No texting in class- Text during breaks. Recording of lectures is not permitted, unless required as a documented accommodation by the Office of Student Accessibility.</p>
UT Dallas Syllabus Policies and Procedures	<p><i>The information contained in the following link constitutes the University’s policies and procedures segment of the course syllabus.</i></p> <p>Please go to http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies for these policies.</p>

*****The descriptions and timelines contained in this syllabus are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.***